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Viareggio Italy

Thursday, 19 July 45

Dear Miss Henry,

I am sure that you are enjoying your summer vacation by this time. I was very glad to receive your last letter. I also heard from Dr. Tate last week, and received the fourth NEWS LETTER. Most of the fellows received the last letter.

Terry Brookins, Edward Brock, Baxter Scryggs, and Scrutchins were fortunate enough to be enrolled at the University Training Center in Florence. A lot of us sent applications, but naturally, all of us couldn't go at the same time. Perhaps a few more of us will go for the second semester which starts in August.

The Red Cross Club in Viareggio blew up yesterday, but as yet the number of casualties has not been determined. It is a ghastly scene. I went into town yesterday to view the wreckage. I am certain that it will be quite some time before the exact number of casualties is found. Some were not hurt at all; some were seriously injured; and an undetermined number killed. The building was completely demolished.

We are still sweating out the possibility of returning to the states; whether we will or won't remains to be seen. I hope that your vacation proves as restful as you had planned it to be.

Sincerely,

Shadeau Hobbs